


REMARKS

In the foregoing amendments, claims 1-17 are amended to conform to a conventional U.S. format, to remove multiple claim dependencies, and to correct minor informalities. Please enter the foregoing amendments before calculation of any claim fees.

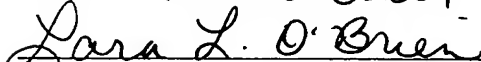
Favorable consideration of the present application is hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail Post Office To Addressee, service under 37 CFR 1.10 in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop PCT (DO/EO/US), Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on *14 October 2004*


Signature - *Lara L. O'Brien*

Attachment(s): Abstract